

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Action

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Info

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4989

SS

INFO RUQMVL/AMEMBASSY TELAVIV 70

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RUQMBE/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 53

SP

RUQTCR/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 4

SAH

ZEN/AMEMBASSY LONDON UNN

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ZEN/AMEMBASSY CAIRO UNN

NEA

ZEN/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD UNN

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ZEN/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS UNN

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ZEN/AMEMBASSY AMMAN UNN

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ZEN/AMEMBASSY TEHERAN UNN

CIA

STATE GRNC

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DOD

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IGA

FEB 11 ISSUE L 'OBSERVATEUR DU MOYEN ORIENT ET DE L'AFRIQUE
(BELIEVED CLOSE TO ISRAEL GOVT) CONTAINS "ACK

AID

ON US RE MIDEAST ARMS TRANSACTIONS. ARTIC 1 ENTITLED "IS
THERE AL-AHRAM AGENT IN STATE DEPT" INCLUDES FOLLOWING ASSERTIONS:

A. AL AHAM LEAK ON SALE 200 M-48 PATTON TANKS TO ISRAEL LATEST
OF SERIES ORIGINATING WITH US OFFICIALS. OTHERS WERE (1)
FRENCH MISSILES FOR ISRAEL STORY; (2) REPORT OF AMERICAN INSPECTION
DIMONA REACTOR. QUESTION ARISES WHETHER ISRAEL FONMIN'S
TALKS WITH US OFFICIALS WILL BE SECURE.

B. FRENCH MIRAGE III SALE TO LEBONON SUPPLEMENTED BY MILITARY
ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR TRAINING LEBANESE PILOTS;
PRICE FOR MIRAGE \$1.8 MILLION EACH; TERMS 8 YEARS GOF TO PAY
INTEREST; FUNDS WILL BE PROVIDED BY ARAB LEAGUE; LEBANESE GOVT
ALSO SAID HAVE SHOWN INTEREST IN STRIDAR RADAR MANUFACTURED
BY FRENCH FIRM CSF.

C. KUWAIT INTERESTED IN 24 MIRAGE III; GOK EXPLORING WITH
FRENCH WHETHER LATTER WOULD BE DISPOSED ALSO PROVIDE 60-100
SUPPORTING PERSONNEL REQUIRED FOR MAINTENANCE THESE AIRCRAFT.

COMMENT: EMBASSY PLANS EXPLORE ASSERTIONS UNDER B AND C
WITH FRENCH OFFICIALS AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY. BOHLEN

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3